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DOCTOR • WHO

The Doctor

He's a Time Lord from the planet Gallifrey. He's more than 900 years old. If there's danger, he's the man who's going to save your life—and everyone on your planet. Got a problem with that?

The TARDIS

The Doctor's dimensionally transcendental time/space machine, cunningly disguised as a police public call box. The trip of a lifetime is guaranteed with every journey!

THE STORY SO FAR...
With the TARDIS breached by invaders and only moments before both implode, the Doctor and his friends search for a working console room and escape the Fifth Dimension...

Doctor Who #8 • Tessaract Part 2 of 2 : Implosion

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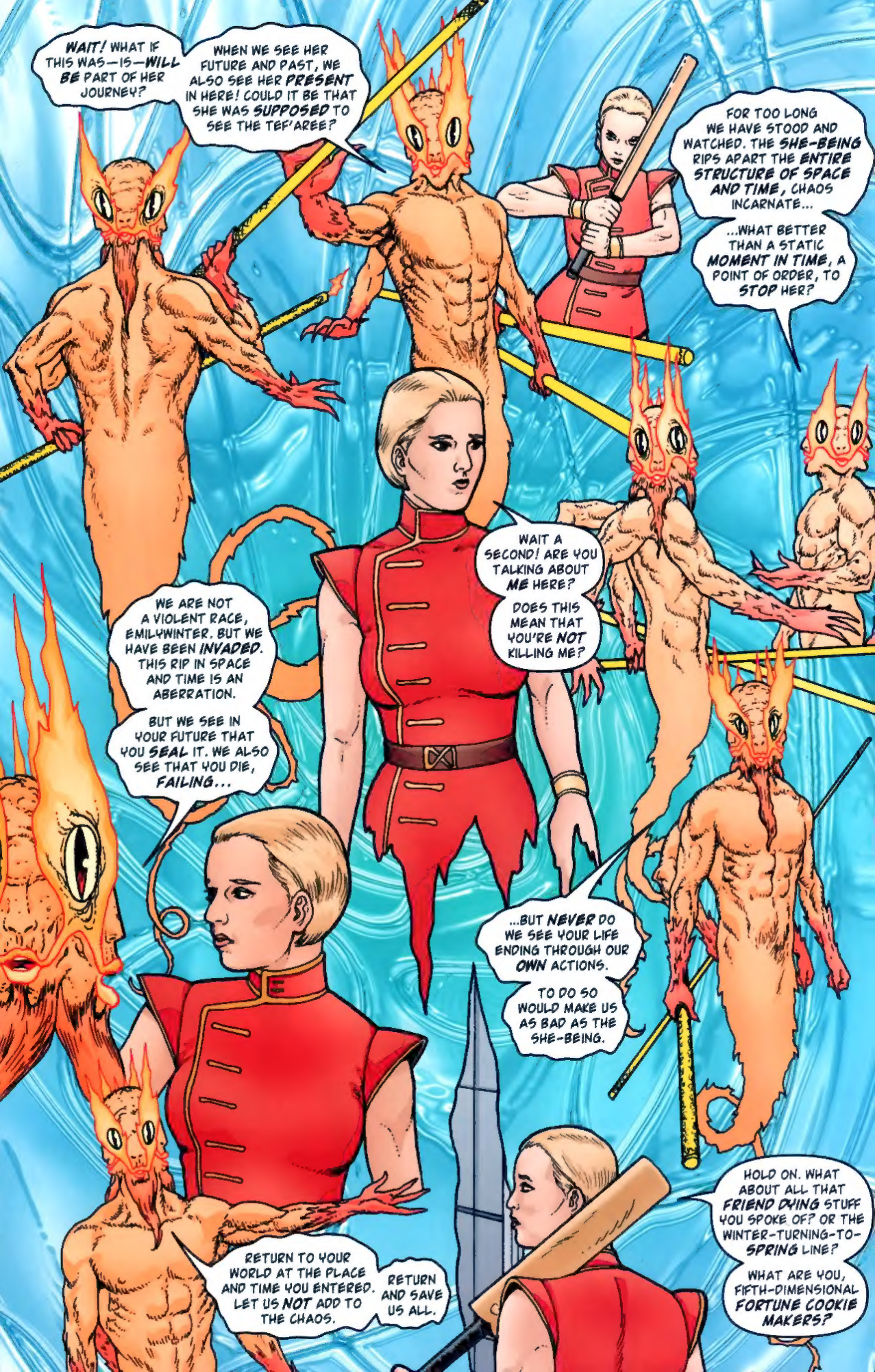
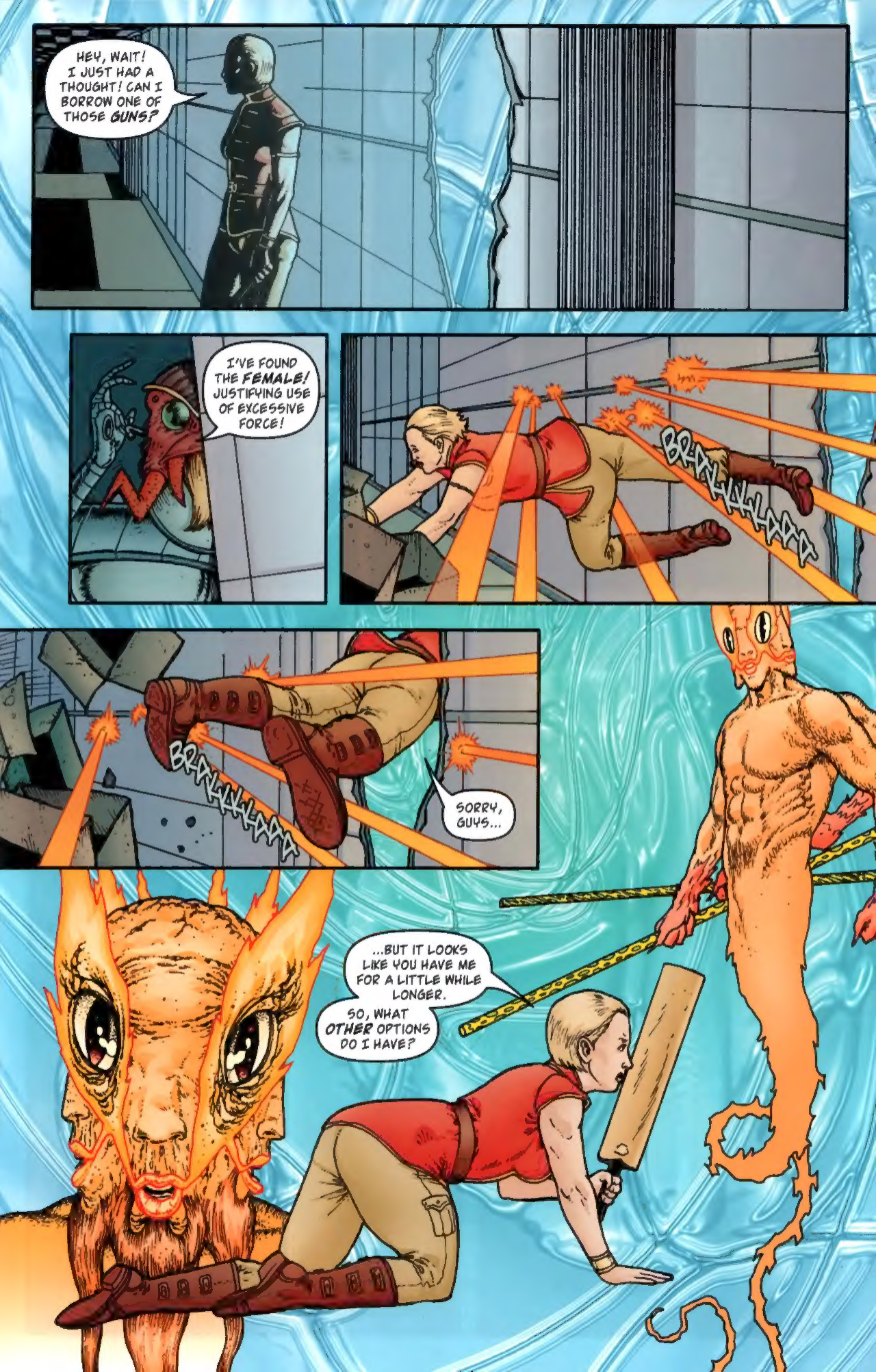
YOU HAVE TRESPASSED FROM THE THIRD DIMENSION INTO OURS, EMILYWINTER.
YOUR SHIP HAS TORN OUR REALM IN TWO—AND WE CANNOT—WE DID NOT ALLOW THAT. THEREFORE...
...THE SENTENCE IS DEATH!


WAIT! WHAT IF THIS WAS—IS—WILL BE PART OF HER JOURNEY?
WHEN WE SEE HER FUTURE AND PAST, WE ALSO SEE HER PRESENT IN HERE! COULD IT BE THAT SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO SEE THE TEF'AREE?
FOR TOO LONG WE HAVE STOOD AND WATCHED. THE SHE-BEING RIPS APART THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE OF SPACE AND TIME, CHAOS INCARNATE...
...WHAT BETTER THAN A STATIC MOMENT IN TIME, A POINT OF ORDER, TO STOP HER?
WAIT A SECOND! ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ME HERE?
DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU'RE NOT KILLING ME?
WE ARE NOT A VIOLENT RACE, EMILYWINTER. BUT WE HAVE BEEN INVADED. THIS RIP IN SPACE AND TIME IS AN ABERRATION.
BUT WE SEE IN YOUR FUTURE THAT YOU SEAL IT. WE ALSO SEE THAT YOU DIE, FAILING...
...BUT NEVER DO WE SEE YOUR LIFE ENDING THROUGH OUR OWN ACTIONS.
TO DO SO WOULD MAKE US AS BAD AS THE SHE-BEING.
HOLD ON. WHAT ABOUT ALL THAT FRIEND DYING STUFF YOU SPOKE OF? OR THE WINTER-TURNING-TO-SPRING LINE?
WHAT ARE YOU, FIFTH-DIMENSIONAL FORTUNE COOKIE MAKERS?
RETURN TO YOUR WORLD AT THE PLACE AND TIME YOU ENTERED. LET US NOT ADD TO THE CHAOS.
RETURN AND SAVE US ALL.


HEY, WAIT! I JUST HAD A THOUGHT! CAN I BORROW ONE OF THOSE GUNS?
I'VE FOUND THE FEMALE! JUSTIFYING USE OF EXCESSIVE FORCE!
BRAKKLLAPPA
BRAKKLLAPPA
SORRY, GUYS...
...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE ME FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER.
SO, WHAT OTHER OPTIONS DO I HAVE?

WHY IS THIS HERE AGAIN? I MEAN, I UNDERSTAND TEMPORAL FLUX AND ALL THAT...
...BUT SURELY THIS IS A LITTLE RANDOM ISN'T IT? UNLESS...
...UNLESS YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE THE TARDIS IS TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING?
I'VE FOUND HIM!
WHAT'S BEHIND DOOR NUMBER ONE?
YES! THAT'S THE THING ABOUT TEMPORAL FLUXES...
...THEY'RE JUST LIKE BUSES! ALWAYS COMING ALONG AT THE SAME TIME.
KILL HIM! STOP HIM!
BRAKKA

NNF
I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING! I CAN'T LOSE IT NOW!
IF ONLY I COULD FIND MY WAY TO THE REAL CONSOLE ROOM. EVEN IF IT WAS THROUGH THE STORE ROOM...

...THAT WAS UNDER THE GRATING! OF COURSE! IT WAS IN FRONT OF ME ALL ALONG!
OH, YOU CLEVER, CLEVER GIRL!
HANDS IN THE AIR! HANDS IN THE AIR!

WELL, YOU DID SAY HANDS IN THE AIR!
YOU CAN'T COMPLAIN WHEN I DO WHAT YOU SAY, NOW CAN YOU?!

ALLEZ-OOP! ISN'T GRATING WONDERFUL?
THE LOVELY CLANGING NOISE IT MAKES WHEN YOU WALK ON IT—
CLANG

—AND THE ENDLESS THINGS YOU CAN FIND UNDERNEATH!

NO! I CAN'T BELIEVE—I WON'T BELIEVE WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME!
THE DOCTOR'S ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS! I'VE SEEN HIM! HE SAVED US!
REALLY, MATTHEW FINNEGAN? WHAT DID YOU SEE? THE DOCTOR DESTROY A BUILDING BY FIRE, DISAPPEAR, AND THEN COME BACK?
AND HOW MUCH OF THE SAVING DID HE DO? IT APPEARS THAT YOU'VE SAVED HIM MORE OFTEN. THE TRAIN, THE BUG SPRAY...

WHAT ABOUT THIS ROOM? IF HE DIDN'T CARE ABOUT ADRIC, WHY DID HE LEAVE IT LIKE THIS?
OH, I'M SO SORRY TO TELL YOU THIS, MATTHEW—BUT HE DIDN'T. THIS IS JUST A QUANTUM ECHO.
WHILE THE TARDIS IS IN TEMPORAL FLUX, OLD ROOMS REAPPEAR.

THE DOCTOR WAITED ABOUT A WEEK OR SO BEFORE GIVING VISLOR TURLOUGH THIS ROOM, LETTING HIM DO WHAT HE WANTED WITH IT.
AND WHEN HE LEFT, IT WAS SIMPLY LEFT EMPTY. THE DOCTOR HAD NO USE FOR IT.
NO MEMORIES, NO TRINKETS—NOTHING TO EVER LINK THESE TWO COMPANIONS TO THE TARDIS.

I'M NOT SAYING YOU SHOULD SIDE AGAINST HIM. BUT YOU SHOULDN'T TRUST HIM, EITHER.
ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU WATCH HIM, OBSERVE HIS ACTIONS. ASK YOURSELF IF THEY'RE THE ACTIONS OF A RATIONAL BEING. AND IF NOT...

...THEN HELP ME STOP HIM. HELP ME BRING ORDER FROM CHAOS.
HELP ME STOP THE SEDUCTION OF EMILY WINTER. YOU KNOW IT WAS ALWAYS ABOUT HER, RIGHT? SHE'S SHINY. HE LOVES SHINY.
UNTIL THEY TARNISH. UNTIL THEY BREAK.
UNTIL THEY DIE.

DON'T MAKE A DECISION NOW. ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU QUESTION EVERY TASK HE GIVES YOU.
AFTER ALL, WE BOTH KNOW THAT YOU WERE JUST BROUGHT ON BOARD TO PLACATE THE WOMAN...

...SO WILL YOU BE A TURLOUGH... OR JUST ANOTHER ADRIC?

NO! THESE ARE LIES! HE TOOK US BOTH BECAUSE HE WANTED TO!
I WASN'T A MERCY CHOICE! I WON'T LISTEN!

HUMANS. SUCH FUN.
SO... PLIABLE.
REPORT! HAVE YOU KILLED THE DOCTOR YET?
NEGATIVE. HE HAS A HOME ADVANTAGE. IT IS PROVING HARDER THAN WE THOUGHT.

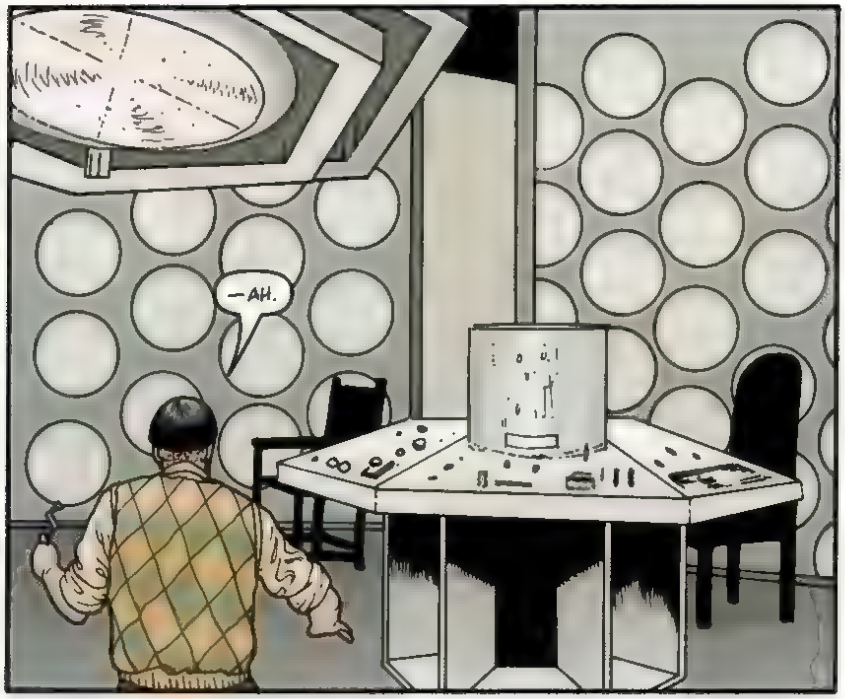
OR YOU'RE MORE STUPID THAN I THOUGHT.
BELAY THAT ORDER. I NEED THE DOCTOR KEPT ALIVE. I HAVE THE ITEM... AND A NEW PLAN.

THIS ONE IS GOING TO BE SO MUCH MORE FUN.

EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS... IN LIFE... HAS A SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION... IF YOU LOOK FOR IT...
YOU CAN COMPILE A REVERSE TRANSITION FROM EXISTING DATA, K9... YOU LOVE DOING THAT.
THIS IS A VERY ODD WAITING ROOM... WHERE ARE THE HOPELESSLY OUT-OF-DATE MAGAZINES?
NNG— ARGGHHHH!

DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE... BEING RATHER HIGH-HANDED, YOUNG MAN?
YOU THOUGHT... YOU SAW A YOUNG GIRL... ENTER THE YARD, YOU IMAGINE YOU HEARD... HER VOICE...
OLD ON A MO! I THOUGHT I JETTISONED THE POOL?
I HAVE TWO POOLS? WHAT KIND OF TARDIS HAS TWO POOLS? I MEAN, I KNEW A MAN IN CALCUTTA...
THAT'S BETTER. I'M BACK. NOW WHERE WAS I?
OH, YEAH. I WAS HUNTING THE RIGHT TYPE OF GRATE. JUST LIKE THIS ONE, IN FACT.

THIS PLACE IS AN INSANE ASYLUM... AND I'M THE INMATE.
HOW MANY ROOMS DOES IT HAVE, ANYWAY? AND HOW MANY BEFORE I FIND THE—

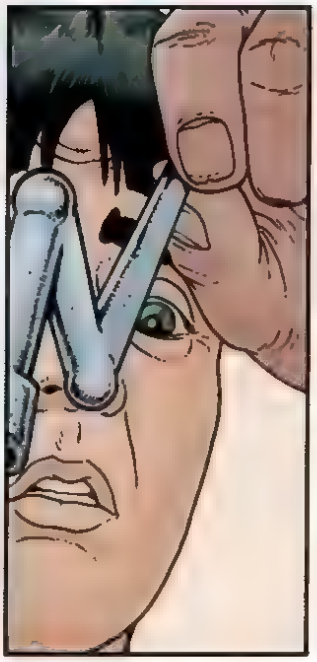

—AH.

THIS IS IT, MATTHEW. YOUR CHANCE TO BE THE HERO.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PUT THE CRANK THING INTO THE HOLE WHATSIT AND YOU SAVE EVERYONE. IT'S EASY.

IF IT'S SO EASY, WHY HASN'T THE DOCTOR ALREADY DONE IT?

IS IT A TRICK? A TRICK TO GET RID OF ME SO HE CAN KEEP EMILY TO HIMSELF?

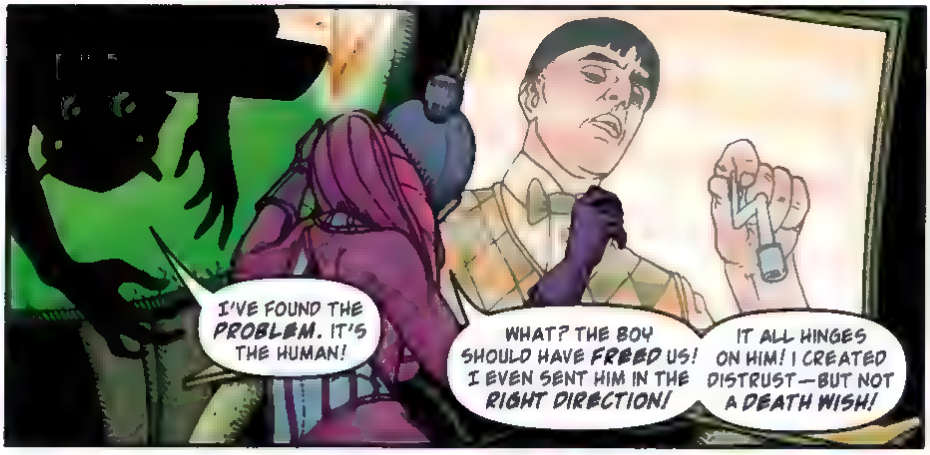


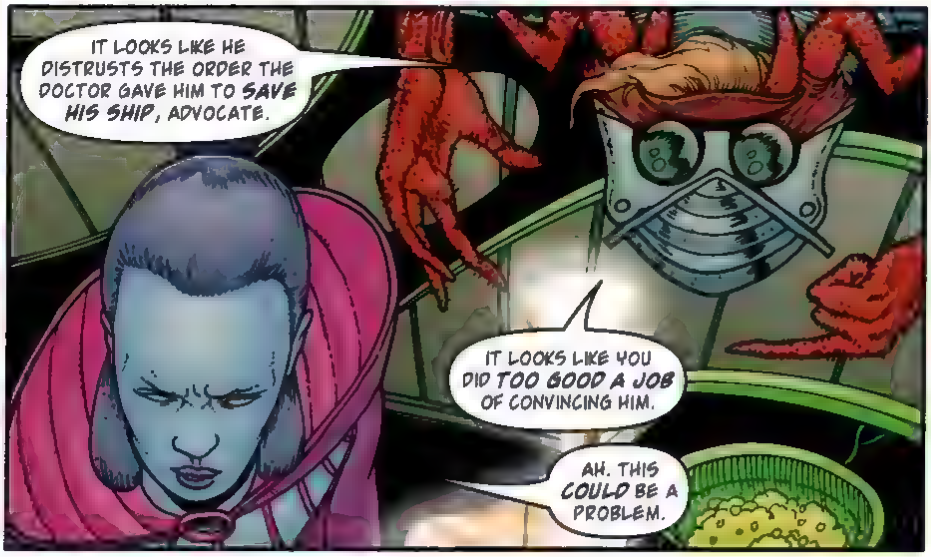
I—I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME! WE NEED TO BREAK OUT OF THE FIFTH DIMENSION NOW...
...BEFORE EVERYTHING IS WIPED OUT IN A FLASH OF WHITE-HOT ENERGY!
THE LAST OF THE SQUADS ARE RETURNING NOW.

WE LEAVE NOW. I DON'T CARE WHAT ACARI ARE LEFT ON THE DOCTOR'S SHIP.
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN THE HEART OF A SUPERNOVA? NO? THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT!

SIR! WE'VE NOT ENTERED NORMAL SPACE YET! WE'RE STILL MERGED— AND UNABLE TO LEAP!
WE'RE TRAPPED!


I'VE FOUND THE PROBLEM. IT'S THE HUMAN!
WHAT? THE BOY SHOULD HAVE FREED US! I EVEN SENT HIM IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION!
IT ALL HINGES ON HIM! I CREATED DISTRUST—BUT NOT A DEATH WISH!

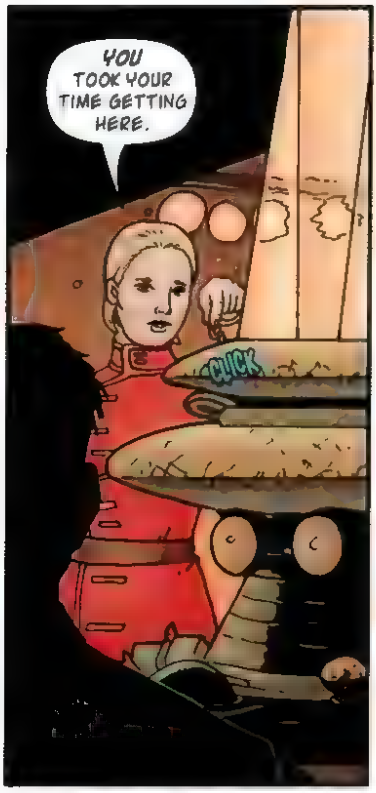

IT LOOKS LIKE HE DISTRUSTS THE ORDER THE DOCTOR GAVE HIM TO SAVE HIS SHIP, ADVOCATE.
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU DID TOO GOOD A JOB OF CONVINCING HIM.
AH. THIS COULD BE A PROBLEM.

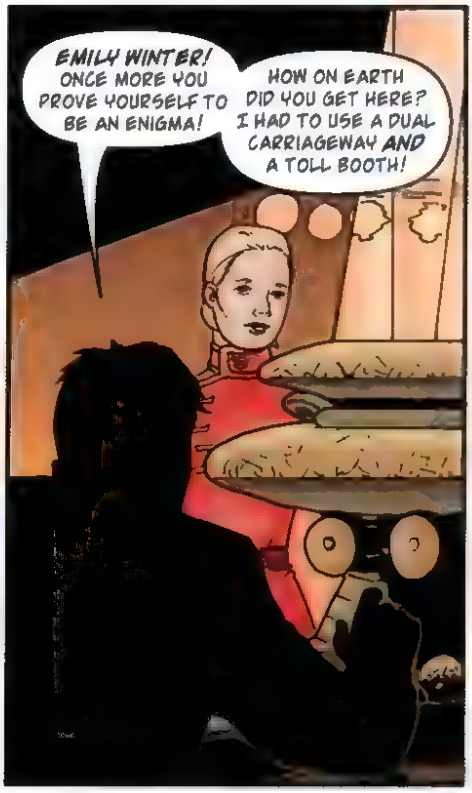
CLANK
BONG
BONG
THE CLOISTER BELL! WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF TIME!
BONG BONG
CAN'T... THINK... NEED TO—
ARRGHH! MUSTN'T... STOP NOW...
CLANK
IF CAPTAIN... JACK COULD... SEE ME NOW...
...IT'D MAKE HIS... DAY...
BONG BONG
I—I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
I'M TOO LATE!

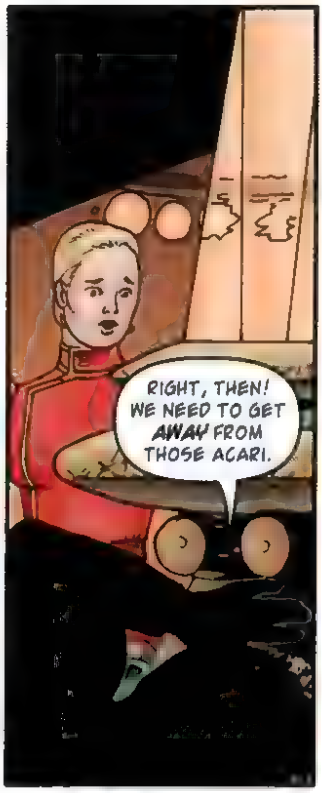
DOCTOR!
WHAT HAPPENED?
IT IS OVER. IT HAS ENDED. IT IS NO MORE.
WHAT, NO PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE CLUES OF A CRYPTIC NATURE?
HAVE YOU TIRED OF THAT ALREADY?
NO, EMILY WINTER. THERE IS NO FUTURE SHOWN HERE. THE TARDIS IS DESTROYED.
THE LAST OF THE TIME LORDS IS NO MORE.
BOX
PUBLIC

NO. NO, IT'S NOT TOO LATE. YOU TOLD ME MY FUTURE.
YOU SAW IT. IT HAPPENED. HAPPENS. WHATEVER. YOU OWE ME IT!
THERE IS NOTHING THAT WE CAN DO! THE EXPLOSION IS AN EVENT LEVEL CHRONAL DISTORTION. WE ARE ADRIFT!
WE CANNOT EVEN TAKE YOU TO A PLANET OR TIME OF YOUR CHOICE. THE HUAN RADIATION IS TOO GREAT TO TRY TO PASS THROUGH!
BUT THEY CAN'T BE DEAD! YOU SAID YOU COULD GO ANYWHERE—BE ANYWHERE IN TIME AND SPACE!
DO SOMETHING!
I AM SORRY, IF IT WERE ANY OTHER TIME, WE COULD. BUT THE DETONATION...
IF IT HELPS, YOU WILL NOT BE HERE LONG, BECAUSE DEHYDRATION WILL EVENTUALLY—
PERHAPS NOT! WE MAY STILL BE ABLE TO HELP HER!
HOW? THE ONLY PLACE WE COULD SEND HER TO WOULD BE THE TARDIS, AND WE SAW HOW THAT ENDS! SHE CANNOT CHANGE—
BUT WHAT IF WE RETURNED HER TO A PLACE WITHIN THE TARDIS WHERE SHE COULD CHANGE IT?
THE CHRONAL DISTORTION IS TOO STRONG TO PLACE HER MORE THAN A FEW SECONDS BEFORE THE END.
BUT REGARDLESS OF THE TIME, YOU CAN PLACE ME IN A PARTICULAR LOCATION, RIGHT?
I KNOW JUST THE PLACE.

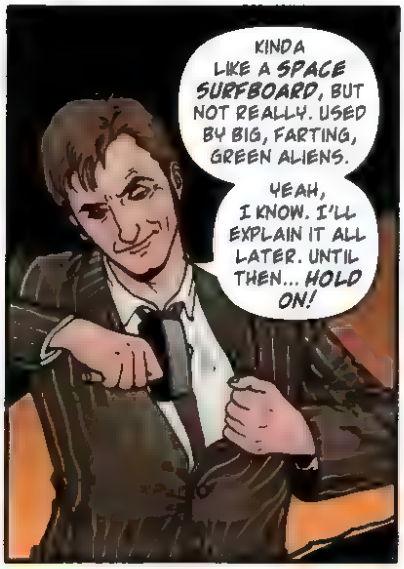
CLANK
BONG
BONG
THE CLOISTER BELL! WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF TIME!
BONG BONG
CAN'T... THINK... NEED TO—
ARRGHH! MUSTN'T... STOP NOW...
CLUNK
IF CAPTAIN... JACK COULD... SEE ME NOW...
...IT'D MAKE HIS... DAY...
BONG BONG
I—I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
I'M TOO LATE!


YOU TOOK YOUR TIME GETTING HERE.
CLICK


EMILY WINTER! ONCE MORE YOU PROVE YOURSELF TO BE AN ENIGMA!
HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GET HERE? I HAD TO USE A DUAL CARRIAGEWAY AND A TOLL BOOTH!


RIGHT, THEN! WE NEED TO GET AWAY FROM THOSE ACARI.

SO ALL I NEED TO DO IS USE THE TRIBOPHYSICAL WAVEFORM MACROKINETIC EXTRAPOLATOR...
...AND I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SHUNT US A COUPLE OF HUNDRED YARDS OFF THE ACARI SHIP'S BOW!
A TRIBOPHYSI —WHAT?


KINDA LIKE A SPACE SURFBOARD, BUT NOT REALLY. USED BY BIG, FARTING, GREEN ALIENS.
YEAH, I KNOW. I'LL EXPLAIN IT ALL LATER. UNTIL THEN... HOLD ON!

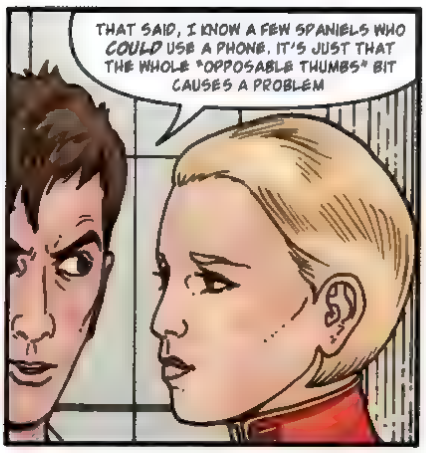
SHUNT

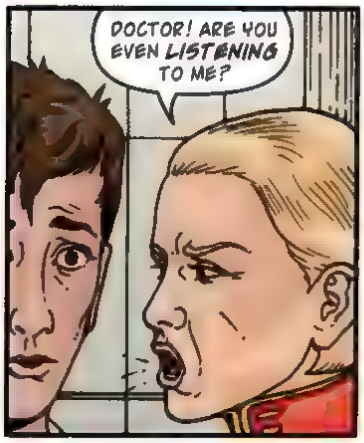
EMILY! DOCTOR! YOU DID IT!
AH, THERE YOU ARE! THANK EMILY—SHE'S THE ONE WHO SAVED THE DAY!

VWORP VWORP
VWORP VWORP
IT'S WORKING! WE'RE SPLITTING!
WELL, THAT OR WE'RE ABOUT TO DISINTEGRATE INTO A MILLION SQUILLION PIECES!
BOM
LOOKS LIKE WE SCARED THE ACARI AWAY... AND GOOD RIDDANCE TO THEM.
SO, MATTHEW... DID YOU FIND ANY INTERESTING LITTLE ROOMS OUT THERE? ANY FUN LITTLE HIDEAWAYS?
NO. I FOUND NOTHING. JUST EMPTY ROOMS.
I FOUND A CONSOLE... BUT I WAS TOO LATE.
GUESS IT WASN'T MY TIME TO BE A HERO.

I'M SURE IT WAS HERE. I WAS TRYING TO GO THROUGH THAT DOOR...
AND WHERE DID THE AGARI GET SHADOW PROCLAMATION TECHNOLOGY?

THAT'S LIKE GIVING A PHONE TO A SPANIEL!


THAT SAID, I KNOW A FEW SPANIELS WHO COULD USE A PHONE. IT'S JUST THAT THE WHOLE "OPPOSABLE THUMBS" BIT CAUSES A PROBLEM

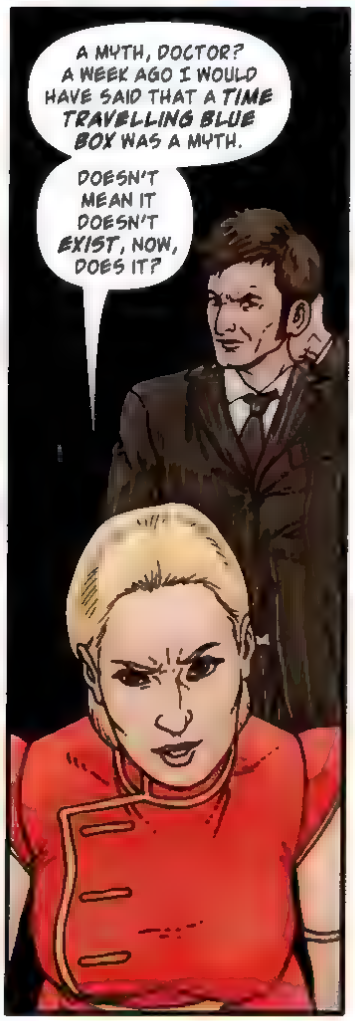

DOCTOR! ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME?

EMILY! YES! OF COURSE I AM.
YOU SAID YOU FELL THROUGH A HOLE IN TIME AND SPACE AND WERE HELPED BY LITTLE BLUE ALIENS.
OR WAS IT PURPLE?

YOU THINK I'M LYING. I SAVE YOUR LIFE AND YOU THINK I'M LYING.
NOT AT ALL! IT'S JUST THE TEF'AREE BIT.
YOU MUST HAVE READ THE NAME SOMEWHERE WHILE YOU WERE LOOKING...

...BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T HAVE SEEN ONE! THEY DON'T EXIST! THEY'RE A MYTH!

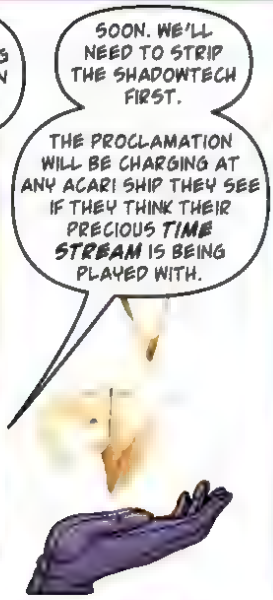
JUST LIKE THE MOON BEING MADE OF CHEESE! WELL, MOSTLY MADE OF CHEESE, ANYWAY—OR READY MEALS THAT ARE TASTY!


A MYTH, DOCTOR? A WEEK AGO I WOULD HAVE SAID THAT A TIME TRAVELLING BLUE BOX WAS A MYTH.
DOESN'T MEAN IT DOESN'T EXIST, NOW, DOES IT?

SO YOU GAINED WHAT YOU WENT FOR. GREAT.
CAN WE END THIS CHARADE NOW?

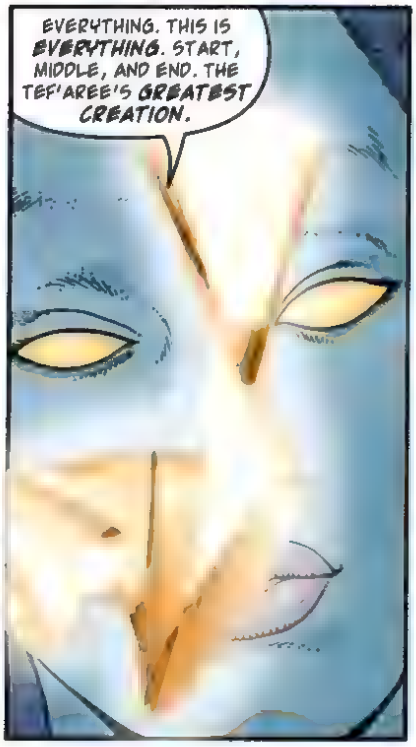
I MEAN, I HATE SPIDERS AT THE BEST OF TIMES!

AND I THINK THEY'RE STARTING TO SUSPECT. CAN WE KILL THEM YET?

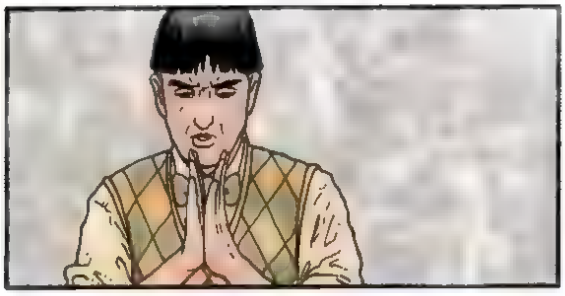

SOON. WE'LL NEED TO STRIP THE SHADOWTECH FIRST.
THE PROCLAMATION WILL BE CHARGING AT ANY ACARI SHIP THEY SEE IF THEY THINK THEIR PRECIOUS TIME STREAM IS BEING PLAYED WITH.

AND WHILE THEY ATTACK THE BIG FISH, WE SLIP PAST UNNOTICED.
INCREDIBLE. THE TERRONITES HAD THIS IN THEIR HANDS FOR CENTURIES WITHOUT A CLUE AS TO WHAT IT WAS.

AND WHAT IS IT EXACTLY?

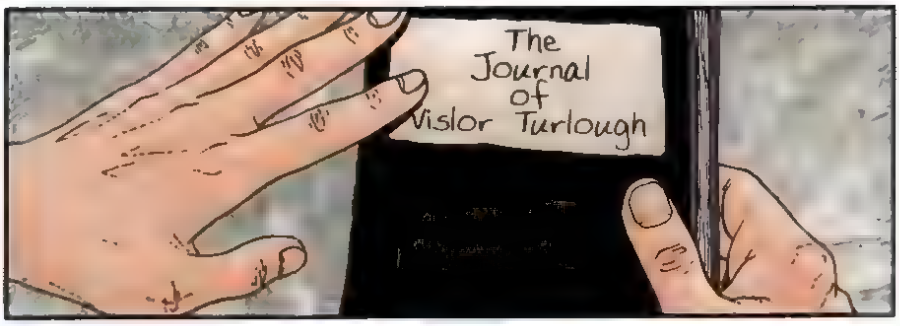

EVERYTHING. THIS IS EVERYTHING. START, MIDDLE, AND END. THE TEF'AREE'S GREATEST CREATION.

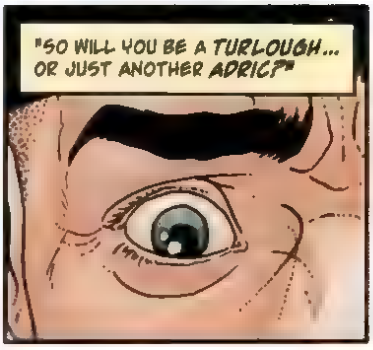
WITH IT, I CAN ACHIEVE IMMORTALITY. I CAN RULE TIME.
BY THE TIME I'VE FINISHED, THE DOCTOR AND THE SHADOW PROCLAMATION WILL BOW TO MY RULE.

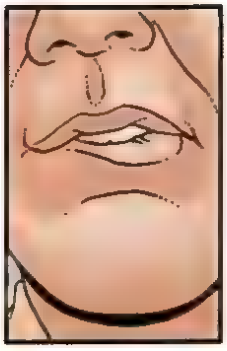


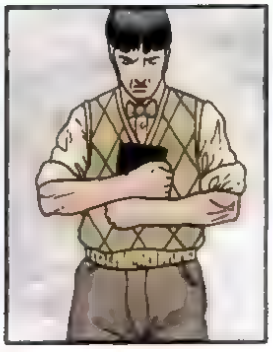
"HE LOVES SHINY. UNTIL THEY TARNISH. UNTIL THEY BREAK."

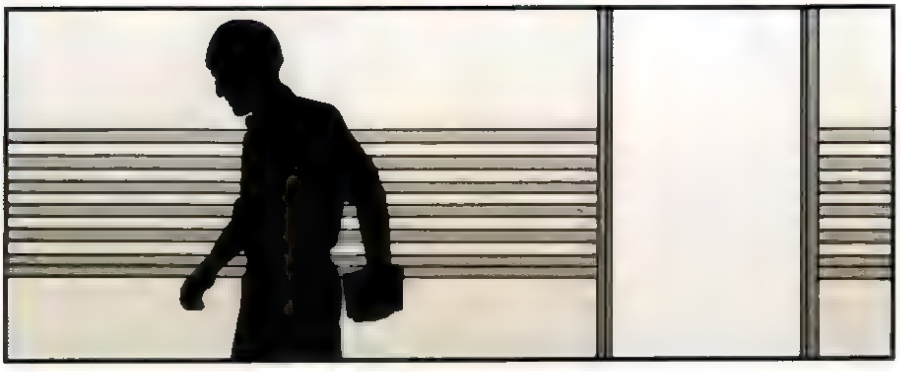
"UNTIL THEY DIE."


The Journal of Vislor Turlough


"SO WILL YOU BE A TURLOUGH... OR JUST ANOTHER ADRIC?"







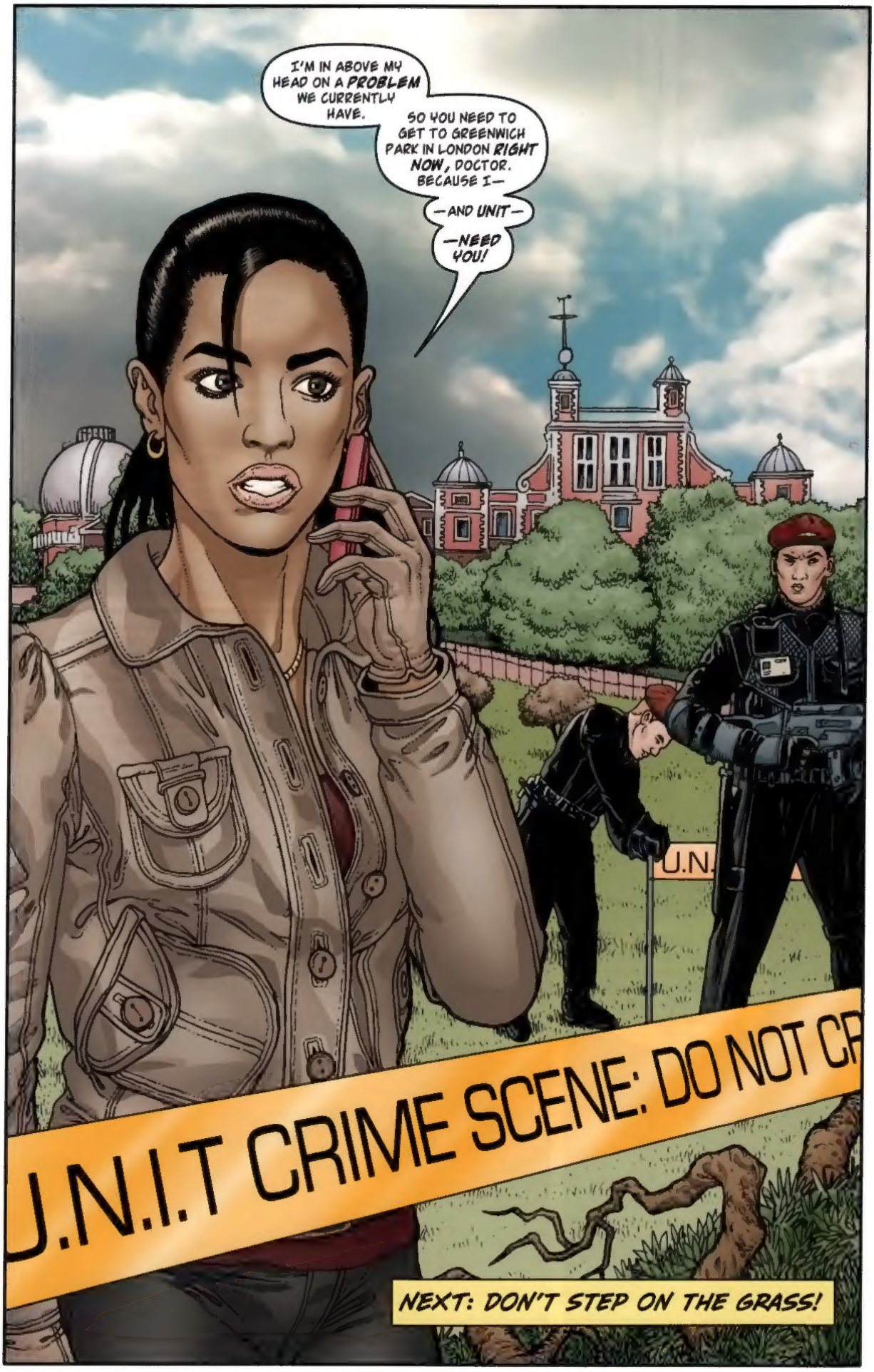
BEE-DEEP
BEE-DEEP

BEE-DEEP
BEE-DEEP

HELLO? WHO'S THIS?
IF IT'S YOU, LADY CHRISTINA, I'VE ALREADY EXPLAINED—
IT'S MARTHA, DOCTOR.

MARTHA JONES! HOW WAS THE WEDDING? DID YOU GET MY PRESENT?
YES, WE DID... ALTHOUGH YOU COULD HAVE TOLD US WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF YOU SPILLED CHAMPAGNE ON IT!

IT TOOK US FOUR HOURS TO GET MY MUM OFF THE CEILING.
LOOK, THIS IS A BUSINESS CALL. DOCTOR TAYLOR'S OFF IN GENEVA AND I'M FILLING IN AS SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR AS A FAVOUR FOR MAGAMBO.


I'M IN ABOVE MY HEAD ON A PROBLEM WE CURRENTLY HAVE.
SO YOU NEED TO GET TO GREENWICH PARK IN LONDON RIGHT NOW, DOCTOR. BECAUSE I—
—AND UNIT—
—NEED YOU!
U.N.
J.N.I.T CRIME SCENE: DO NOT CR
NEXT: DON'T STEP ON THE GRASS!

NEXT MONTH ISSUE #9

DOCTOR • WHO

IDWORDS
News from the nerve center of IDW Publishing

TRANSFORMERS GET NEFARIOUS!

Writer Simon Furman strikes a new direction for the robots in disguise, springing out of the hit movie TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN.

Transformers: Nefarious #1 cover by Brian Rood.

Longtime TRANSFORMERS writer, **Simon Furman** sat down with IDW to discuss his upcoming series, TRANSFORMERS: NEFARIOUS beginning in March. If you're a TRANSFORMERS fan, this one raises the bar! Picking up after the TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN's block-busting events, NEFARIOUS strikes out into new territory for the TRANSFORMERS!

IDW: Simon, you've been a longtime scribe of the adventures of the TRANSFORMERS. And we know you've written every incarnation of them in comic book form. What is it about the movie universe you find most compelling?

SIMON FURMAN: I like it because it still feels very new and unexplored. You can only throw so much into a two-and-a half-hour movie (and its sequel), so, as a writer for the spin-off comics, you get that much more room to play around in this evolving continuity. Characters that get maybe one scene, or one line, can be fleshed out, real meat put on the bones. You can pull influences and traits from their Generation 1 equivalents and craft something that's both familiar and new at the same time. For me, I always want to be going in some fresh direction with Transformers. I've written practically every incarnation, from the original G1 right up to the new IDW G1 line, and while I'm more than happy to dip back in from time to time, it felt like I needed a change, to push a familiar story and characters in new directions. That's very much what I'm (hopefully) bringing to *Nefarious*, a new twist, a new style.

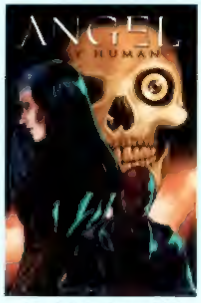
FEBRUARY RELEASES FROM IDW PUBLISHING

COMICS

Angel #30
Angel: A Hole in the World #3
Army of Two #2
Belladonna
Beyond the Wall #4
Doctor Who #8
G.I. Joe #15
G.I. Joe: Cobra II #2
G.I. Joe: Operation HISS #1
G.I. Joe: Origins #12
Ghostbusters Holiday Special: Tainted Love
Jennifer Love Hewitt's The Music Box #3
Jon Sable Freelance: Ashes of Eden #5
Locke & Key: Crown of Shadows #4
Lone Justice: Crash #1
Mercy Thompson: Moon Called #1
Song of Saya #1
Star Trek Movie Adaptation #1
Star Trek: Deep Space Nine: Fool's Gold #3
Star Trek: The Next Generation: Ghosts #4
Starstruck #6
Transformers #4
Transformers: Bumblebee #3
Transformers: Last Stand of the Wreckers #2
We Will Bury You #1
Weekly World News #2
Zombies vs Robots Aventure #1

GRAPHIC NOVELS • ART BOOKS • SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Alice in Wonderland HC
Angel: Only Human TPB
Classic G.I. Joe, Vol. 7 TPB
Dan DeCarlo: Jetta HC
Dreamland Chronicles, Book 4 TPB
From the Ashes TPB
G.I. Joe TPB, Vol. 2 TPB
Grimjack Omnibus TPB
Munden's Bar: Grand Return, Vol. 1 TPB
Nanovor: Game Day TPB
Sam Kieth Sketchbook #1 TPB
Sparrow 17: Pushead HC
Star Trek: Nero TPB
Star Trek: Romulans: Pawns of War TPB
Transformers Movie Collection Vol. 1 HC



Angel: Only Human TPB

Star Trek: Nero TPB

G.I. Joe: Origins #12

Beyond the Wall #4

Comments, questions, suggestions, complaints, gripes, etc., are appreciated. Feel free to send any correspondence to letters@idwpublishing.com or IDWords, 5080 Santa Fe Street, San Diego, CA 92109. You can also join in the hullabaloo on our message boards at idwpublishing.com.

***IDW:** With the launch of NEFARIOUS, we've been letting people know that it's a sequel to TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN. How is this limited series different in regard to the hit movie than TALES OF THE FALLEN was?*

FURMAN: Largely, except maybe for the Ravage story, *Tales of the Fallen* was filling in some gaps, telling stories that needed telling but otherwise were already a part of the movie-verse tapestry. But here and now, with *Nefarious*, we're very much pushing out into uncharted waters, expanding and evolving the two movies into a bona fide continuity. Instead of looking back, *Nefarious* is all about looking/moving forward, fleshing out and exploring what would otherwise be the void between movies 2 and 3.

***IDW:** Tell us a little bit about the central mystery concerning NEFARIOUS, please.*

FURMAN: Someone is mining the Transformers' history on Earth. Wherever the robots have been, whatever they've touched, a mysterious organization known as the Initiative is all over it like a rash. Why? What are they up to? Can't tell you that right now. But it's a shocker. Something that will leave the Autobots and Decepticons reeling and force Optimus Prime to make exactly the decision that he hoped never to have to make again, one that's akin to ripping out his own Spark. Anyway, once Soundwave starts to realize that he doesn't know quite as much as he likes to think he does, and that he's not quite as in control of the situation on Earth as he imagined, he takes increasingly drastic steps. But the Initiative have been around a long time, with links to the original Seekers. So they're, more often than not, one step ahead of Soundwave all the way.

***IDW:** Is SOUNDWAVE secretly your favorite TRANSFORMER? Really?*

FURMAN: I've always liked Soundwave. I liked him in the original G1 cartoon (mostly because he was, largely, used in an understated way). I used him quite a bit in the UK and US comics Marvel put out in the '80s. And I dropped him into the IDW continuity as soon as I could (*Spotlight: Soundwave*). I just like the idea of someone cold, self-serving, and calculating, who appears to toe the line and fade into the background, but is always looking for an angle, keeping an eye on everyone and everything. So when I realized Soundwave was in the second movie and just how under-utilized he was, I knew he was going to be our main (robot) bad guy. Much as I like a Megatron or a Shockwave or a Scorponok, Soundwave's sheer calculating dispassion just wins the day for me.

***IDW:** Is tying up loose ends from the TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN and other movie-related comics a big concern for you here?*

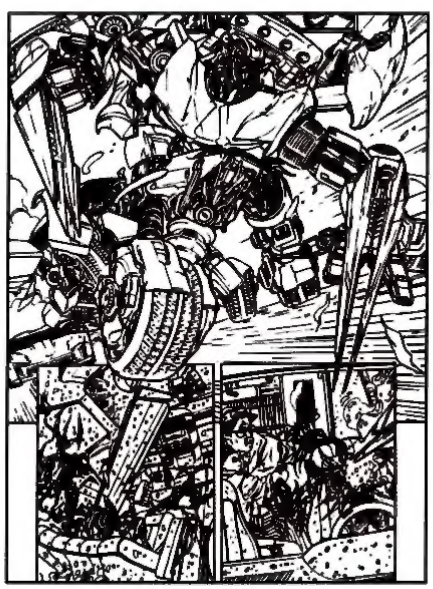
FURMAN: No, not really. My aim with *Nefarious* is not to plug holes in the movies or, particularly, reference the comics that have come before. Because I want *Nefarious* as entry-level as possible, it starts with its own internal premise and sees that through to a (hopefully) satisfying conclusion. You don't have to have read the other comics, you don't even have to have seen the movies (though I recommend both those options wholeheartedly). I think the only thing I really pull from *Revenge of the Fallen* directly is the antipathy between National Security Advisor Theodore Galloway and Major Lennox. That relationship (or lack thereof) is key to *Nefarious*.

Transformers: Nefarious #1 cover by Carlos Magno.

***IDW:** We hear you're creating a brand-new villain for the TRANSFORMERS in NEFARIOUS. What's up with them? Who are they?*

FURMAN: On the surface, the villain is the Initiative, a group of (human) power brokers and industrialists, but it's their aging CEO who's the real villain of the piece. Carter Newell has his own, personal (historical) reasons for hating the Transformers, and it's that twisted hatred that will send what is otherwise a reasoned and supremely well-executed strategy spiralling out of control, apocalyptically so. Basically, both factions of Transformers find that, despite their size, sophistication, and technological superiority, they are not the real power on planet Earth!

IDW



Line art from *Transformers: Nefarious #1*.